

VANADIUM CORPORATION OF AMERICA

HAER No. CO-81-J

(VCA) NATURITA MILL, MILL WAREHOUSE  
approximately three miles northwest of Naturita,  
between Colorado State Highway and  
the San Miguel River  
Vicinity of Naturita  
Montrose County  
Colorado

HAER  
COLO  
43-NATU.  
15-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Denver, Colorado 80225-0287

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

VANADIUM CORPORATION OF AMERICA (V.C.R.) NATURITA MILL,  
MILL WAREHOUSE

HAER No. CO-81-J

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COLO  
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**Location:** In northwest quadrant of mill complex, north of Mechanic Shed, approximately three miles northwest of Naturita, between Colorado State Highway 141 to the southwest and the San Miguel River to the northeast; in the NW1/4 of the SW1/4 of Section 14, Township 46 North, Range 16 West

**Date of Construction:** Circa 1940

**Designer:** Vanadium Corporation of America

**Builder:** Vanadium Corporation of America, Naturita Mill Carpenter Crew; Dick Socks, head carpenter, Louis Naslund, carpenter

**Present Owner:** Cyprus-Amax Minerals Corporation, 9100 E. Mineral Circle, Englewood, CO, 80112

**Present Use:** Vacant / Not in Use

**Significance:** Built circa 1940, the Mill Warehouse was used to store a wide variety of milling machinery parts and equipment. Over the years, such items as nuts and bolts, ball bearings, assorted tools, replacement parts for milling machinery, and other general supplies, were stored here.

**General Description:** The Mill Warehouse was a small, single-story, simple rectangular building, constructed of 2x4 wood framing and post and beams, supported by a wood post and beam foundation and floor system. The flooring consisted of 2x4s, laid solid with long axis vertical. The roof was a moderately sloped shed of 2x8 framing and spaced 1x8 planking, and both walls and roof were sheathed with corrugated sheet metal. A wood deck ran along the southeast (front) side of the building.

Two wood doors located on the southeast face were vertical plank with cross bracing, sheathed with corrugated metal, and windows, of assorted sizes and spacing, were wood sash, six over six double hung, or divided light single-sash.

The interior of the building was partitioned into office and locked storage at the southwest end, and open storage in the remainder. The open storage area was lined with floor-to-ceiling wood storage bin units. Cabinets and work counters divided the space.